

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 08585 232105Z

70

ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 SCA-01 EB-05 COME-00

PPT-02 NEA-10 H-03 L-03 USSS-00 SY-10 FBIE-00 INR-10

CIAE-00 NSAE-00 A-01 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 SS-20 NSC-10

PM-07 DODE-00 /116 W

----- 068325

R 232019Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4420

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 8585

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, AR, CDES (JOHN SWINT)

SUBJ: SWINT ASSASINATION

REF: BA-8560

1. SUMMARY. MURDER RATHER THAN KIDNAPPING WAS INTENDED IN THE KILLING OF FORD EXECUTIVE AND AMCIT JOHN SWINT. CRIME COMMITTED BY ORGANIZED TERRORISTS, PROBABLY ERP. END SUMMARY.

2. AS REPORTED IN REFTTEL, JOHN SWINT, AMCIT AND EXECUTIVE OF TRANSAX, A FORD MOTOR CO SUBSIDIARY, WAS KILLED IN CORDOBA ON NOV 22 BY UNKNOWN ASSASINS. DETAILED NEWS ACCOUNTS OF THE AMBUSH AND KILLING MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE INTENTION OF THE ATTACKERS WAS TO KILL RATHER THAN KIDNAP SWINT. SWINT IS THE FIRST AMERICAN IN MEMORY TO DIE AT THE HANDS OF TERRORISTS IN ARGENTINA.

3. THERE WERE APPARENTLY NO LABOR PROBLEMS AT TRANSAX PLANT. IN FACT THE 2500 WORKERS OF THE PLANT WALKED OFF THE JOB IN PROTEST OF THE KILLING.

4. COMMENT. THE FACT THAT 15 INDIVIDUALS WERE INVOLVED,
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AUTOMATIC WEAPONS WERE USED AND THE EXECUTION OF THE CRIME

ALL POINT TO A WELL ORGANIZED TERRORIST GROUP WITH ERP
BEING THE MOST LIKELY. NO COMMUNIQUE HAS YET BEEN ISSUED
CLAIMING RESPONSIBILITY, HOWEVER, WHICH IS ERP'S CUSTOM.
ONE NEWSPAPER MENTIONED AN UNCONFIRMED REPORT THAT ERP HAD
DEMANDED A LARGE SUM OF MONEY FROM THE FORD SUBSIDIARY AND
THAT THE COMPANY HAD REFUSED TO PAY. IF THIS IS TRUE THEN THE
ASSASSINATION WAS ERP'S ANSWER. IF IT IS NOT TRUE THEN THE
MOTIVATION BECOMES UNCLEAR AND A POSSIBLE CONCLUSION AT THIS
POINT IS THAT THE TERRORISTS HAVE DEVELOPED A NEW TACTIC,
NAMELY THE OUTRIGHT MURDER OF FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN.
KREBS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: ASSASSINATION, BUSINESSMEN, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE
Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 23 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWINT ASSASINATION
TAGS: PINS, CDES, AR, (SWINT, JOHN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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